

Amendment to the Abstract: Please replace the original Abstract with the following:

A system for generating message transformation and validation software uses an internally consistent set of message definitions, data dictionary entries, transformation rules, and validation rules. A user-friendly graphical user interface provides the requirements engineer or other user with the ability to specify these documents using a structured table and rules editor. The generation system takes the interface definition documents as input and generates various software artifacts to transform and validate messages. W3C XML schemas are generated from an interface definition for assistance with code development, for use as standards-compliant interface definition that can be reused and composed with other schemas, and for validating messages. Extensible Stylesheet Language Transform files are generated from an interface definition to transform and validate messages. These generated software artifacts for message transformation and validation may then be used to implement message-processing systems.